

**VERMONT PESTICIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL  
APRIL 24, 2013 MEETING MINUES**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Bosworth, Sid  
Decker, Kathy  
Gary, Lené  
Giguere, Cary  
Hoffman-Contois, Razelle  
Levey, Rick  
Palmer, Eric  
Shively, Andy

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**GUESTS**

Michael Mainer  
Sara Packer  
Stephen Shaw  
Jarod Wilcox  
Bert Stewart  
Ryan Moelleur  
John Moelleur  
Jeff Disorda  
Robert Wright  
Sylvia Knight  
David M. DeSimone  
Eric Trucott  
Brian Chateauvert  
Benjamin Delorme  
Craig Dusablon  
Mike Kurt  
Jeff Taylor  
Bill Clough  
John Cookson  
David O'Brien

**Meeting Called to Order**

1:10 pm EDT

**Meeting Adjourned**

4:55 pm EDT

**Announcements and General Business**

- Upcoming 2013 meetings:
  - Burlington - 108 Cherry Street: May 22 Room 2B, June 26 Suite 201 HOC and July 24 Room 2A
  - Montpelier - National Life Building: September 26 Room M205
- FTP site is in early stages of development. Documents for inclusion or requests for removal of posted materials should be submitted to Razelle.

**Business**

**Right of Way Pesticide Treatment Permit Requests**

Several permit requests were reviewed and subsequently recommended to the Secretary of the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (Secretary) for approval. The Council agreed that incomplete or incorrectly completed applications will not be considered. The Council requested that a summary of pesticide usage (for at least the last 2 treatment cycles) be included with the 2014 permit applications or presented at the 2014 VPAC Right of Way meeting.

**Utilities**

The Council discussed each proposed treatment plan in detail including Rare and Endangered Species and Best Management Practices. Highlights of the 2012 treatment cycle were provided.

1. **Green Mountain Power Distribution (recently merged with CVPS)** - Jared Wilcox, Distribution Line Arborist presented the 2013 permit request. In a 2012 pilot, a few limited trees were treated with Cambistat®. Results of this treatment will be measured in 2013. The Council unanimously voted that the application be forwarded to the Secretary for approval (Rick Levey moved, Sid Bosworth seconded).
2. **Green Mountain Power Transmission (recently merged with CVPS)** - Bert Stewart presented the 2013 permit request. Milestone® (active ingredient aminopyralid) while requested for use in 2012, was not used. In 2013 a limited pilot (spot treatment) on company owned property is intended. The Council did not have issue with the proposed test, but did not recommend that this product be used as part of the 2013 treatment program. The Council unanimously voted that the application be forwarded to the Secretary for approval (Andy Shively moved, Kathy Decker seconded).
3. **National Grid** - John Cookson, Forestry Consultant, presented the 2013 permit request. The Council agreed to table voting on this request until a correctly completed permit application is submitted. However, Mr. Cookson was able to discuss the desired plan in detail and the Council deemed that a corrected application could be sent via e-mail for final review and determination. A revised application was provided for review and on May 1, 2013 the Council voted that this application be forwarded to the Secretary for approval.

4. **Vermont Electric Power Company** - Steve Shaw presented the 2013 permit request. A test plot on private property to examine the potential for offsite impact of spot treatment with Streamline® (aminocyclopyrachlor is one of 2 active ingredients) is planned. A discussion of the importance of chipping and leaving in place ensued. The Council was invited to attend a May 31, 2013 recertification class/program for Vermont Electric Power Company pesticide applicators. The Council unanimously voted that the application be forwarded to the Secretary for approval (Eric palmer moved, Rick Levey seconded).
5. **Vermont Electric Cooperative** – Sara Packer presented the 2013 permit request. The Council unanimously voted that the application be forwarded to the Secretary for approval with the caveat that only products registered for use in Vermont be allowed in any permit issued (Sid Bosworth moved, Andy Shively seconded).

#### **Vermont Agency of Transportation**

Craig Dusablon presented the 2013 permit request. The application was forwarded to the Secretary for approval with one abstention (Kathy Decker moved, Sid Bosworth seconded).

#### **Railways**

The Council discussed each permit application in detail. However, voting was tabled on six requests in order to provide the Council with sufficient time to research and consider the requested use of Esplanade 200 SC® (a.i. Indaziflam) and Streamline® (aminocyclopyrachlor is one of 2 listed a.i.) in railway vegetation management. Voting was tabled on two other requests until correctly completed permit applications are provided. The Council agreed that corrected applications could be sent via e-mail for final review and determination. A conference call will be held on May 6, 2013 to discuss and vote. In addition, information regarding location of water supplies needs to be provided.

If the Council votes that an application be forwarded to the Secretary for approval, it will be with the recommendation that all existing caveats and cautionary provisions be carried forward. For example, language regarding timing of treatment to reduce the potential for human exposure (rail yards, crossings, Burlington Water front etc.) and details of tie end to tie end treatment will be included.

The following permits were reviewed and discussed.

Pan Am Southern – standard caveats

Green Mountain Railroad – standard caveats

Clarendon and Pittsford – standard caveats

Vermont Railway – standard caveats and the Council agreed that the Burlington waterfront be treated prior to 6 am but not on a weekend or holiday

Washington Country – standard caveats and the Council agreed that in areas with increased potential for public exposure, treatment may occur prior to 6 am or after 7 pm on weekdays

Washington County Railroad Connecticut River Division – standard caveats

St. Lawrence and Atlantic – standard caveats and the presenter noted the town of Norton will not be included in the permit

New England Central – standard caveats and the Council agreed that the Burlington waterfront be treated prior to 6 am but not on a weekend or holiday

Revised applications were subsequently received from New England Central and the St. Lawrence and Atlantic and deemed by the Council to be appropriate for review.

During a May 6, 2013 conference call, all 8 applications were discussed. All in attendance (Sid Bosworth was absent) agreed that these applications may be forwarded to the Secretary of the Agency for approval with the following caveats: (1) Arsenal will not be recommended for use in sensitive areas (2) Application equipment must be capable of preventing or otherwise capturing any pesticide that may drip from a spray nozzle when crossing over water and (3) for this particular use pattern, both Streamline and Esplanade 200 SC be permitted for use during the 2013 treatment season and that the Agency of Agriculture, with input from VPAC members, conduct surface and ground water monitoring along the railroad corridor to monitor for these active ingredients, prior to and immediately after spraying has occurred.